

Message Text

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22

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /057 W

----- 047814

R 201020Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4233

INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMCONSUL PESHAWAR UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 1870

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PK, US

SUBJECT: BHUTTO, KHAR AND THE AMBASSADOR

REF: ISLAMABAD 1791,

1. FORMER PUNJAB GOVERNOR GHULAM MUSTAFA KHAR HAS REPLIED TO INTERVIEW COMMENT BY PRIME MINISTER THAT KHAR SPOKE WITH AMBASSADOR BYROADE AND ASKED FOR HELP IN LAHORE BY-ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

2. IN WRITTEN STATEMENT CARRIED ON FRONT-PAGE OF VERNACULAR NAWAI-E-VAQT, KHAR SAID DURING AND AFTER ELECTION CAMPAIGN HE NEVER CALLED AMBASSADOR. HE NOTED THAT AFTER HE RECEIVED EID CARD FROM AMBASSADOR HE CALLED THE EMBASSY TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE CARD BUT AMBASSADOR WAS NOT AVAILABLE. HE GAVE AMBASSADOR'S SECRETARY HIS NAME, BUT NOTHING ELSE WAS SAID. IN STATEMENT, KHAR ALSO STATED BHUTTO'S ATTEMPT TO MALIGN POLITICAL OPPONENTS BY INVOLVING US AMBASSADOR IS CONTRARY TO DIPLOMATIC NORMS AND NOT IN INTEREST OF GOOD US-PAK RELATIONS.

3. EDITORIALS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAKISTAN TIMES AND VERNACULAR PRESS CRITICIZE "POLITICAL BANKRUPTCY" OF FORMER PUNJAB GOVERNOR WHO HAS BEEN "STRUTTING ABOUT POLITICAL STAGE AS A SUPER PATRIOT." PAKISTAN TIMES EDIT NOTES THAT AMBASSADOR "ACTED IN STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH DIPLOMATIC PROPRIETY IN REFUSING TO OBLIGE HIM."

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LIANCE WITH DIPLOMATIC PROPRIETY IN REFUSING TO OBLIGE HIM."

4. AS NOTED REFTEL, EMBASSY HAS AND WILL CONTINUE TO ANSWER WITH
"NO COMMENT" PRESS AND PRIVATE INQUIRIES REGARDING BHUTTO
INTERVIEW.
BYROADE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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